

Big Daddy Of Racing

In the parlance of 200 m.p.h. drag racing, everybody wants to beat Big Daddy Don Garlits in a fuel dragster match race, no matter what the cost in fuel, machinery or personal daring.

The last chance for West Coast drivers to get a crack at the all-time great from Seffner, Fla., will occur the weekend of March 15-16, when Garlits makes his farewell appearance in the sixth annual Hot Rod Magazine Drag Races at Riverside International Raceway.

Garlits made his plan to race at Riverside known to National Hot Rod Association division director Bernie Partridge shortly before leaving to take care of business at home. He left his race car at Carl Schiefer's Monterey Park speed shop.

Garlits, 36, one of drag racing's only full-time professionals, is still king of the strips. He is the reigning NHRA national champ and winner of the invitational Professional Dragster Association Race of Champions.

Last July in Alton, Ill., Garlits became the first man to top the 240 m.p.h. mark on a quarter-mile drag strip. He backed his amazing run with another top speed of 238 m.p.h. the same day.

Garlits later predicted it would be a long time before anyone ventured past the 240 m.p.h. barrier again, since most strips do not have adequate shut-down areas. He ran off the end of the strip on both runs and damaged the front end of his Dodge-powered dragster.

"Until I find a strip where it's safe to hit a top speed, I'm going to concentrate on elapsed time," Garlits said after the record run. "It's just not safe to stop from that speed in the short distances they provide you on most good strips."

Garlits' current goal is to get under 6.5 seconds. However, if he wants to pour on the horsepower through Riverside's speed traps, Big Daddy will have more than a half-mile of uphill pavement to come to a safe stop.

At the end of last week, entries neared the 100 mark for the \$25,000 two-day meet that brings together all the greats of the sport for the final time on California's winter championship circuit. After Riverside, most of the big money meets are elsewhere in the U.S.

Long Beach Rodeo

Pacific Indoor Rodeo at Long Beach Arena has revolutionized the traditional cowboy sport and put rodeo squarely into the big-business entertainment world.

When the chute gates fly open Friday night, it will mark the seventh year professional cowboys, broncs and bulls have battled each other in the arena by the sea.

The rodeo was the brainchild of Howard Jones, then director of Long Beach Visitors and Convention Bureau. He'd never been on a horse, but Jones wanted something to draw new people to his city. Jones rounded up several Long Beach sports investors, called in Lex Connelly, then manager of the National Finals Rodeo, and had the satisfaction of seeing his idea put 34,411 people in the new arena.

Encouraged by the Long Beach success, Connelly quit the finals, began to expand to San Diego, Anaheim, Seattle and Fresno. With an Imperial Valley cattleman, Ed Rutherford, he formed the Golden State Rodeo which bought both California-based professional rodeo livestock companies.

Applying the promotional experience gained at the Pacific Indoor Rodeos, the Golden State has built its season schedule to 70 individual rodeos this year, double the number any company has produced.

Metro Wrestling

Metropolitan Conference teams Bakersfield, Cerritos, and El Camino will be among the top contenders for state regional wrestling honors Saturday.

Cerritos, which won the conference team title over the weekend at Long Beach, will lead Metro teams into action at San Diego Mesa. Bakersfield, which won the dual team title with a record of 6-0, will be in the regionals at Modesto.

Final dual standings are: Bakersfield (6-0), El Camino (5-1), Cerritos (4-2), Pierce (3-3), Santa Monica (2-4), Valley (1-5), Long Beach (0-6).

Final scores in conference tourney: Cerritos, 99; Bakersfield, 88; El Camino, 66; Pierce, 38; SMCC, 16; Long Beach, 8; Valley, 0.

CIF Basketball Bracketed



FINAL PREP BASKETBALL

Bay League			Camino Real		
W.	L.	GB	W.	L.	GB
North	14	0	Lasuen	13	1
South	9	5	Serra	12	2
West	8	6	Mt. Carmel	8	6
Mira Costa	8	6	Murphy	7	7
Redondo	6	8	Montgomery	6	8
Hawthorne	6	8	St. Bernard	6	8
Santa Monica	3	11	St. Monica	3	11
Inglewood	2	12	Crespi	1	13

Pioneer League			Sky League		
W.	L.	GB	W.	L.	GB
Beverly Hills	10	0	Morningside	8	2
Aviation	8	2	Torrance	7	3
El Segundo	6	4	Palos Verdes	7	3
Miraleste	3	7	Rolling Hills	4	6
Lennox	3	7	Culver City	3	7
Lawndale	0	10	Leuzinger	1	9

Pepperdine Goes Against Broncos

Pepperdine College's varsity basketball team, enjoying its most successful season in six years, prepares for a rugged three-game home stand this week.

Southland fans will have the opportunity to see top-rated Santa Clara (22-1) in action Friday when the Broncos (9-1 in conference) tip-off against the Waves

in the Los Angeles Memorial Sports Arena at 8 p.m.

On Saturday night, Pepperdine will entertain the WCAC cellar dweller University of San Francisco (1-9) also in the Sports Arena at 5:45 p.m. in a preliminary to the Los Angeles Stars - New Orleans Bucs ABA contest.

Santa Clara, No. 3-rated nationally, was stunned by San Jose State, 73-69 in double overtime last Friday and saw its 21-game win string snapped in the process.

The Broncos of Coach Dick Baribaldi retained their top spot in the WCAC race with a decisive 71-51 win over Santa Barbara Saturday.

Bud Ogden, hobbling on a sprained ankle he sustained against Pepperdine, teams with 6-9 junior Dennis Awtry and 6-5 Ralph Ogden to give the Broncos one of the strongest front lines on the West Coast. The trio, when at full strength, averages nearly 60 points of SCU's total scoring.

Pepperdine, which took the sting out of the University of Pacific and St. Mary's over the weekend, improved its conference record to 5-5 and its overall mark to 12-9.

In the 66-64 win over Pacific Tigers, Pep capitalized on the scoring efforts of sophomore Steve Sims. The 6-4 guard from Redondo Beach collected all of his 17 points (15 in the first half) on spinning jump shots from a low post against UOP.

The Waves were aided in scoring by Bobby Sands' 19 points and Tom Egerer's 14.

Pacific Coast Little League Tryouts Reset

The rain has caused the postponement of tryouts for Pacific Coast Little League until next Saturday at 10 a.m.

Tryouts will be at the new field at 235th Street, west of Crenshaw Boulevard.



IT LOOKS ROUGH . . . From the baseline Mike Cloyd (21) of South High got away a reverse layup shot with North's Harlen Peet (52) trying to defend against the play. The bucket was good, but North won the game to go undefeated in Bay League play. North will meet Loyola at home and South is host to Santa Barbara in CIF "AAAA" playoffs Friday night.

Pasadena Wins Title; Camino Finally Wins

El Camino College avoided a winless 14-game basketball season by defeating Bakersfield, 84-74, in a Metropolitan Conference game Friday in the loser's gym.

Darrel Daniel scored 34 points for the Warriors. Alan Oddi had 15 and Bob Simon 16 points in the victory. In the last 47 conference games, El Camino has won seven times. Camino has never won a basketball championship.

A year ago, Cerritos defeated Pasadena to win the California junior college basketball title. This year, in a pre-conference game, Cerritos routed the Lancers, 73-56. And in their first conference meeting of the year, the Falcons nipped Pasadena, 52-50.

Those three stinging defeats are all but forgotten today as Pasadena reigns as the new champion of the Metropolitan Conference after defeating Cerritos, 53-48, over the week end.

Unless Fullerton of the Eastern Conference challenges Pasadena to earn a berth in the state tourney, the next action for the Lancers will be against the Metropolitan Conference All-Stars Saturday night at Pasadena. The state tournament will be

Long Beach Holds Rodeo

Professional rodeo cowboys take part in the Pacific Indoor Rodeo Friday through Saturday at Long Beach Arena.

The Rodeo will combine the top animals of both California rodeo livestock companies - the Jay Spear of Newhall and the Flying U from Marysville.

The two strings had 19 head selected for the 1968 National Finals, for which rodeo outlaws are picked from every rodeo company in the United States and Canada. No one string matched this number.

held at Fresno on March 6, 7, and 8. Pasadena is ticketed to meet the winner of the Central Conference, either Hancock or Merced.

Last week's results: Tuesday - Pierce over Cerritos, 62-48; Pasadena over El Camino, 89-75; LBCC over SMCC, 73-57; Valley over Bakersfield, 103-82. Friday - Pasadena over Cerritos, 53-48; LBCC over Pierce, 78-66; El Camino over Bakersfield, 84-74; Valley over SMCC, 83-82.

STANDINGS (FINAL)			
Team	W	L	Pct.
Pasadena	13	1	.929
Cerritos	11	3	.786
Long Beach	6	8	.429
Pierce	5	9	.357
Santa Monica	5	9	.357
Valley	4	10	.286
Bakersfield	4	10	.286
El Camino	1	13	.071

SCORING LEADERS (FINAL)			
Name	Total	Avg.	Team
Al Shumate (Valley)	307	25.6	Valley
Morris Thomas (Valley)	311	25.9	Valley
Darrel Daniel (EC)	309	25.8	El Camino
Doug Smith (SM)	273	22.7	Santa Monica
George Trapp (PCC)	255	21.3	Pierce
John Van Vleet (C)	228	19.0	Cerritos
Mike White (Pierce)	216	18.0	Pierce
Lee Dunnon (Valley)	215	17.9	Valley

Compton Seeded No. 1

While Compton High School has tattooed itself as the team to win the CIF basketball against a field of 31, three of those challengers are again from Torrance.

Qualifying as the No. 1 and 2 teams from the Bay League are North High and South High. The Torrance Tartars salvaged a tie for second place with Palos Verdes of the Sky League to gain a berth.

With the CIF Southern Section divided into four separate basketball tournaments, Commissioner Ken Fagans was able to fill 4-A bracket with six teams which tied for second place.

North High will meet Del Rey runner up Loyola Friday night at North High is a first round game. South will be host to Santa Barbara, Channel League No. 3 team, at South High.

Torrance will go to Arcadia to play Pacific League champion Arcadia in a first round game.

Coach Russ Bierley's North High Saxons went undefeated in the Bay League last Thursday by defeating Santa Monica, 76-52.

Losing their last two games, the South High Spartans stumbled to a 9-5 second place finish. The closing loss was to Mira Costa, 87-82. The Mustangs closed at 8-6 to tie West High for third place. West nudged Redondo, 65-64.

Individual honors last weekend went to Tom Sandwich of West who tallied 28 against Redondo and Scott Fisher of Mira Costa who got 37 against South.

In the Sky League Morningside toppled Culver City, 73-62, to win the championship Friday night. The Monarchs (8-2) finished a game ahead of Palos Verdes and Torrance. P.V. beat Leuzinger, 69-57, and Torrance downed Rolling Hills, 47-42.

Fermin Lasuen, hanging on to its one game lead, outlegged Serra for the Camino Real League title. In the windup Lasuen (13-1) beat St. Bernard's, 81-67, and Serra clubbed Murphy, 78-71.

Bishop Montgomery moved up to a 6-8 record at the end of the season defeating Crespi, 61-47. Dale Rost tallied 25 for the victors.

Compton's Tarabees, defending CIF "AAA" champion, drew the top-seeded berth for the first "AAAA" division basketball play-offs. Garden Grove was top-seeded in the "AAA" division in pairings released by the CIF office.

Coach Bill Armstrong's varsity, 25-0 on the season and currently on a 57-game winning streak spanning two years, will meet San Gabriel Valley League second-place finisher Norwalk in its first-round game.

The Compton-Norwalk game has been selected as the KNBC-TV "Game of the Week," and will be telecast live and in color at noon on Saturday. All other first-round games in the "AAA" and "AAAA" divisions will be played on Friday at 8 p.m.

Garden Grove's Argonauts, 26-0 on the year, drew the top-seeded "AAA" berth over another undefeated club, Claremont. The Argonauts have been given a bye in first-round action, but may draw an opponent, depending on results of league races which have not yet been decided.

Second seeded in the "AAAA" division was Foothill League champion Muir, which is 26-2 on the year and on a 13-game winning streak.

The third seed in the prestigious "AAA" division went to Sunset League champion Huntington Beach (24-2), which was runner-up to Compton in last year's CIF, SS, "AAA" championships.

Rounding out the top four ball clubs in the "AAAA" play-offs was Ventura, which won the Channel League and has one of the longest winning streaks in the Southland, next to Compton. The Cougars are 24-1 on the season, with the only loss an opening-game defeat at the hands of Notre Dame (Sherman Oaks).

In the "AAA" division, Claremont's Wolfpack draws Montview League runner-up Bassett in a home contest on Friday evening. Third seeded in the "AAA" play-offs was Pioneer League kingpin Beverly Hills, with Santa Barbara County league champion Santa Maria taking the fourth-seeded position.



ON YOUR MARK . . . And set to go to Saturday's Long Beach Relays at Veterans Stadium are Gwen Kuhn, Lee Roscoe, Queen Sally Crocker, Marilyne Vaughan of Torrance, Chris Hurley and Christine Alessio. The starter is quarter-mile runner Al Carlson.